

## REMARKS

Claims 126-201 are pending in this application. Claims 142-161 and 170-201 have been allowed. Claims 126-135, 137-139 and 141 stand rejected. Claims 136 and 140 have been objected to. Claims 136, 140, 162, and 186 have been amended. Claims 126-135, 137-139, and 141 have been cancelled. Claims 136, 140, 142-201 remain in the application. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the reasons expressed herein below.

A. Rejection of claims 137, 139, and 162-169 under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 139 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Although Applicants disagree with this rejection, in order to advance this application to a state of allowance, Applicants have cancelled, without prejudice, claim 139.

Claims 137 and 162-169 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In order to advance this application to a condition of allowance, Applicants have cancelled, without prejudice, claim 137, and have amended claim 162 to incorporate the necessary recitation from previously cancelled claim 1.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute claims 137 and 139 in a future patent application.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 137, 139 and 162-169 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

B. Rejection of claims 126-135 and 137-139 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 126-135 and 137-139 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,227,092, issued to Han ("Han"). Although Applicants disagree that the Han reference is relevant to the patentability of claims 126-135 and 137-139, Applicants have cancelled, without prejudice, claims 126-135 and 137-139 in order to expedite the allowance of this application. Applicants expressly reserve the right prosecute 126-135 and 137-139 in a future patent application.

Accordingly, withdrawn of the rejections of claims 126-135 and 137-139 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

C. Rejection of claims 126-132, 134, 137-139, and 141 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 126-132, 134, 137-139, and 141 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the Abstract of Alkan ("Alkan"). Although Applicants disagree that the Alkan reference is relevant to the patentability of claims 126-132, 134, 137-139, and 141, Applicants have cancelled, without prejudice, claims 126-135, 137-139, and 141 in order to expedite the allowance of this application. Applicants expressly reserve the right prosecute claims 126-132, 134, 137-139, and 141 in a future patent application.

Accordingly, withdrawn of the rejections of claims 126-132, 134, 137-139, and 141 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) is respectfully requested.

D. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 136 and 140 have been objected to, but have been deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 136 and 140 have been so amended. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 136 and 140 are now allowable.

E. Allowed Subject Matter

Claim 186 has been amended to correct a typographical error found therein and for consistency with the claims that depend therefrom, such as, for example, claim 188. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the claims in view of the amendment to claim 186.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of all remaining claims at an early date is earnestly solicited.

If the undersigned can be of assistance to the Examiner in addressing issues to advance the application to allowance, please contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

August 13, 2004  
Date

Respectfully submitted,



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